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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/605,096	09/09/2003	Hsiao-Li Peng	MSCP0004USA	2095
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27765	7590	02/07/2005
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NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL PATENT OFFICE (NAIPC)
P.O. BOX 506
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116

EXAMINER

BUI, HUNG S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/605,096	Applicant(s) PENG ET AL.	
	Examiner Hung S. Bui	Art Unit 2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the signal transferring device mounted in the frame for transferring signal from the peripheral device to the main board must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Le et al. [US 6,293,636] in view of Christensen et al. [US 5,333,097].

Regarding claim 1, Le et al. disclose a complex peripheral module (102) applied to a computer apparatus (100), the computer apparatus comprising a housing (figure 2), and a main board position within the housing (abstract) position inside the housing, the housing forming an assembly space (154) having a standard height, the complex peripheral module comprising a plurality of peripheral devices (106, 108), each peripheral device having a thickness less than the height of the assembly space;

- a frame (120) having a plurality of side walls (figure 3) connecting to each other, the plurality of side walls defining a containing chamber matching the assembly space such that the plurality of peripheral devices are contained in the containing chamber and the frame and the housing being assembled and fixed in the assembly space, wherein the plurality of peripheral devices are positioned in the assembly space by the frame (figure 3).

Le et al. disclose everything claimed except the peripheral devices including a signal transferring device mounted in the frame for transferring signal from the peripheral device to the main board.

Christensen et al. disclose a peripheral device (20) connected to a peripheral device holder (14) by means of a signal transferring device and a signal transferring device (92) connected to the peripheral device holder for connection to a main board (figure 4, column 4, lines 35-54).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the signal connection design of Christensen et al. for the peripheral devices of Le et al. for the purpose of providing connection between the peripheral devices and the main board.

Regarding claim 2, Le et al. disclose a plurality of connecting components (110, 112) to mount the peripheral devices on the side walls (figure 2).

Regarding claim 3, Le et al. disclose everything claimed except the connecting component comprising an opening on the side wall of the frame, a threaded hole on a wall of the peripheral device and a screw passing through the opening and screwed into the threaded hole.

Christensen et al. disclose a peripheral device (20) being connected with a frame (14) by means of an opening on the side wall of the frame (86), a threaded hole (88) on a wall of the peripheral device and a screw (84) passing through the opening and screwed into the threaded hole.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the component securing means of Christensen et al. for the peripheral devices of Le et al., for the purpose of securing the peripheral devices to the frame.

Regarding claim 4, Le et al. disclose the connecting component comprising an orientation hole and a non-circular hole in the wall of a frame (figure 9), a hole on a wall of the peripheral device (figure 7) corresponding to the orientation hole and a fastener (172) having a protrusion (116) and rotatable bolt (178) wherein the protrusion fix into the orientation hole of the frame and the hole of the peripheral device and the bolt fixed into the non-circular hole and can be rotated such that the peripheral device and the frame are assembled.

Regarding claim 6, Le et al. disclose the peripheral device including a floppy disk drive (108). Le et al. disclose everything claimed except for the peripheral device also including an interface display.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include an interface display as one of the peripheral devices of Le et al., as modified, for the purpose of providing a status display.

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Le et al., as modified, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ohtsuka et al. [US 5,778,254].

Regarding claim 5, Le et al., as modified, disclose everything claimed except the signal transferring device including a circuit board with a transferring circuit and a plurality of flexible of flat cables being electrically connected to the peripheral device and the main board.

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Ohtsuka et al. disclose a signal transferring device (figure 9) including a circuit board (13) having a plurality of flexible of flat cables (19, figure 9) being electrically connected to the peripheral device and a main board (column 1, lines 40-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the connection design of Ohtsuka et al. for the peripheral devices of Le et al., as modified, for the purpose of accommodating peripheral devices of differing sizes in the frame.

Conclusion

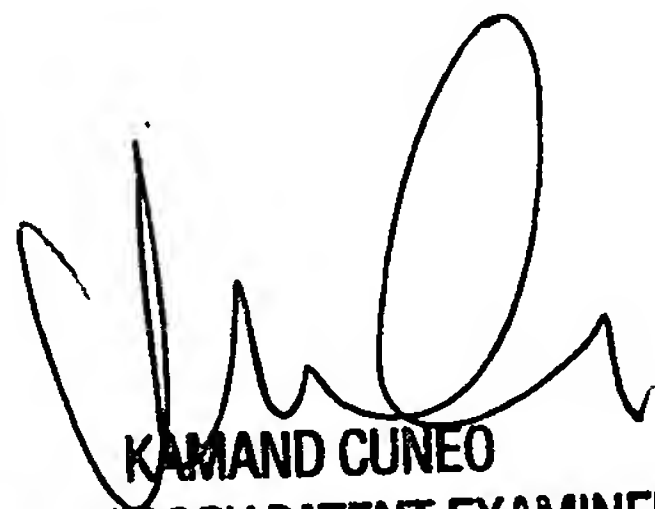
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung S. Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-2102. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

2/2/05
HB



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